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EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICTS JOINT COMMITTEE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

FOR

1 9 5 5

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

BOROUGH OF HYTHE,
RURAL DISTRICT OF EAST ASHFORD,
RURAL DISTRICT OF ELHAM,
RURAL DISTRICT OF WEST ASHFORD.

BY

HILDA K. BRADY-BIRKS,
M.Sc., M.R., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.





EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT.

on the Health and Sanitary Conditions
of the Hythe Borough, East Ashford Rural
District, Elham Rural District and
West Ashford Rural District.

. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the
year ending 31st December, 1955.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimated population for the united
district under review was 39,620 compared with 39,250 for the
previous year. There has been a tendency for the population to
show an increase over the last few years; during 1954 it rose by
10 and during 1955 also by 370.

ITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE.

The adjusted live birth rate for the joint areas was 13.4 per
1,000 resident population. The rate for England and Wales was
12.0. The still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still births) was
12.4 and that for England and Wales was 23.1.

DEATHS.

The death rate - adjusted for age and sex distribution - for
the four areas for 1955 was 13.0 per 1,000 estimated resident
population and that for England and Wales was 11.7. We have two
County Hospitals for old persons in the joint area which considerably
increases the death rate in Elham Rural District and West Ashford
Rural District but this is offset by the low rate in East Ashford
Rural and Hythe Borough.

Infant Mortality Rate.

This rate was 24.7 per 1,000 (live and still) births and that
for England and Wales was 24.9.

Deaths from Accident.

The deaths from accident in the four areas were 18 in number;
seven were from motor vehicle accidents and 11 from other causes;
there is a high number for a rural population and only three of those
who died were over 60 years of age.

Infectious Disease.

The incidence of infectious disease was generally low in all
our districts except for the peak of Measles which comes every two
years. This peak occurred again in 1955, (7 cases in 1954, 956
cases in 1955). Ten cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified and
confirmed and there were two deaths both of male adults. All the
cases had some degree of paralysis on admission to hospital and
several of them have considerable residual paralysis. The good
news that a reliable vaccine is now to become available gives great
hope that this crippling disease will soon be under control; but
nevertheless, as in the case of Diphtheria, the response of parents to the
efforts of Public Health Authorities will be essential to the
success of the campaign.

There were 15 cases of Scarlet Fever and seven were admitted to hospital. 44 cases of Pneumonia were notified and 61 of Whooping Cough (one case was nursed in hospital).

There was one outbreak of Food Poisoning in East Ashford involving 14 persons, but no other case of food poisoning occurred during the year and only three cases of Dysentery were notified.

Tuberculosis.

The Tuberculosis figures are very satisfactory; the number of new cases (17) and the number of deaths (6) are both less than for 1954 and the number of recoveries is considerably increased (14). The Mass Radiography Unit visited Hythe at the end of 1954, but only 10 new cases were notified in 1955 (8 in 1954).

The death rate for the four areas was 0.14 and that for England and Wales was 0.13.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

Immunisation.

Although the notifications of Diphtheria for England and Wales have fallen to the low figure of 161 (provisional) for 1955 and the deaths to 11 (provisional) if this level of safety is to be maintained it is still essential that at least 75% of the children should continue to be immunised before they are one year old. According to the statistics for England and Wales supplied by the Ministry of Health only 36% were immunised in 1954 and 38.4% in the first half of 1955. The figures for Kent as a whole are higher than these.

In order to estimate the degree of protection in our four areas I reviewed the figures for the past four years and the average for these years was approximately Hythe 79%, East Ashford 57%, West Ashford 51% and Elham 67%. As a United District we have always been keenly interested in the matter of Immunisation and it is most important that each new generation of parents should be educated to realise that only by continued protection of the young infant can the immunity we enjoy be maintained.

Vaccination.

The figures for vaccination are not so good. I have no national figures for comparison but the averages for our own areas over the past four years are Hythe 52%, East Ashford 33%, West Ashford 30% and Elham 46%.

Housing.

The housing drive has proceeded steadily during the year and many of the families in which I have been concerned on medical grounds have now been housed satisfactorily but I still get appeals for help from young married couples and also from people desiring a better standard of housing. Many rural cottages are damp, antiquated and unsatisfactory and cannot be regarded as offering adequate accommodation on reasonable modern standards. The survey of these properties is going ahead and should be completed in the near future. The grants for improvement of old properties have indeed been the means of giving a new look and a new lease of life to many cottages which would otherwise have soon been fit only for a demolition order. The consequent improvement to the comfort and health of their occupants is of the greatest importance.

are of Old People.

Two active Old Peoples Welfare Committees, one for Hythe and one for the three Rural Areas, are doing valuable work in expanding and co-ordinating the work in their areas and in co-operating with other bodies interested in the same field. This reduces overlapping and makes the best use of the available resources. Progress is quietly going on in many aspects of the care of old people. Some problem cases still arise where the aged and infirm, unable to look after themselves, still resist the suggestion that they would receive better care and attention in Hospital and it is obvious that their fear is a survival of their old dread of the "workhouse". This difficulty will naturally disappear very soon and with the increasing housing provisions for elderly persons more suitable accommodation will become available.

The Chiropody service is a tremendous advantage to our old people because foot troubles, though in themselves not vitally serious, cause a great deal of pain and inconvenience and prevent what should be the normal mobility of elderly people. Mr. W.F.S. Pendlove and Mr. H.G. Pettitt, both of Hythe, have been good enough to serve in our areas at much reduced fees and we are very grateful to them. At present the districts covered are Hythe and the rural areas around the Borough. A total of about 650 treatments has been given during the year under review.

Old Peoples Clubs have become flourishing and accepted concerns in the life of the Community and our areas now have twelve such centres where elderly persons gather together for mutual intercourse and entertainment and where Chiropody Clinics are held.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Areas.

The long overdue sewerage scheme to serve some of our larger villages are again under consideration and I hope nothing will be allowed to interfere with their prompt completion.

There are still some problem areas in our remoter country districts where there is as yet no satisfactory water supply but careful consideration is being given to every case. Main water is available to 99% of the properties in Hythe and to 90% of properties in the three Rural Areas.

Clean Food.

There is no doubt that an increased awareness of the need for cleanliness in the preparation and sale of food is growing in the minds of all classes of person, due probably to the constant publicity given over a number of years, and there has been considerable improvement in food shops and restaurants - much however remains to be done. Meat inspection has proceeded in all our areas with a minimum fuss and with efficiency and the view expressed by many persons is that the actual quality of meat on sale has greatly improved.

The general work of the Health Departments has run very smoothly and I thank the Sanitary Inspectors and all the Council's Officers for their every ready help and co-operation.

May I also give to the Members of my four Councils my very grateful thanks for their support and help at all times and for extending my period of office after my retirement date to make it possible for me to complete this Annual Report.

I remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

HILDA K. BRADY-BIRKS.
M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



(1)

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Area: 3,030 acres

POPULATION:

Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year
population of the District was 9,480 (9,320 for
1954) an increase of 160.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 3,136

ESTIMATED RENTABLE VALUE: £104, 245

REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE: £410 (estimated)

STAFF:

Chief Sanitary Inspector & Housing
Inspector

Mr. John Plim, Cert. R.S.
Cert. Meat & Foods
Inspector.

Deputy Sanitary Inspector

Mr. G.A. Hagedorn,
Cert. R.S.I.,
Cert. Meat & Foods
Inspector.

Bookkeeper/Typist

Miss R.A. Dray

Garman

Mr. E. Stokes

House Collection,
House Disposal

2 drivers.
9 collectors.
1 tip attendant.

Plumbing

1 plumber and fitter
1 carpenter
2 painters and general
hands
1 assistant fitter.

Telephone Operator

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BOROUGH OF HYTHE.EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Total M. F. | | | | Hythe | England and Wales |
|--|-------------|----|----|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| 1. Live Births | 91 | 47 | 44 | Birth rate | 11.71 | 15.0 |
| (a) Legitimate | 83 | 45 | 38 | per 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | 8 | 2 | 6 | estimated | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 2. Still Births | 1 | 1 | - | Rate per | 10.86 | 23.1 |
| (a) Legitimate | 1 | 1 | - | 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | (live and | | |
| | | | | still) | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 3. Deaths | 151 | 71 | 80 | Death rate | 10.49 | 11.7 |
| | | | | per 1,000 | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes | - | - | - | | - | 0.64 |
| (a) Maternal Causes | | | | Rate per | | |
| (excluding | | | | 1,000 | | |
| abortion) | - | - | - | (live & | - | 0.54 |
| (b) Due to abortion | - | - | - | still) | - | 0.10 |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes) | 1 | 1 | - | Rate per | 10.9 | 24.9 |
| (a) Legitimate | 1 | 1 | - | 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | live | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age | - | - | - | | | |
| 6. Deaths from Tuberculosis | | | | Rate | | |
| (a) Respiratory | 3 | 2 | 1 | per | 0.31 | 0.13 |
| (b) Other Tuberculosis | - | - | - | 1,000 | - | 0.015 |
| | | | | estimated | | |
| 7. Deaths from Cancer | | | | | | |
| (a) Cancer of lung and bronchus | 4 | 3 | 1 | resident | 0.42 | 0.38 |
| (b) Other Cancer | 12 | 6 | 6 | population) | 1.26 | 1.66 |
| 8. Deaths from other Diseases | | | | | | |
| Deaths from Pneumonia | 6 | 4 | 2 | | 0.63 | 0.505 |
| Deaths from Influenza | 1 | 1 | - | | 0.10 | 0.068 |
| Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis) | 1 | 1 | - | | - | |

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BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Causes of Death, 1955.

| ALL CAUSES | | | Males 71 | Females 80 |
|------------|--|-----|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | 2 | - |
| 2. | Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic diseases | ... | - | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | 1 | - |
| 8. | Measles | ... | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | - | - |
| 0. | Cancer of the stomach | ... | 4 | - |
| 1. | Cancer of lungs and bronchus | ... | 3 | 1 |
| 2. | Cancer of breast | ... | - | 2 |
| 3. | Cancer of uterus | ... | - | - |
| 4. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer) | ... | 2 | 4 |
| 5. | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Diabetes | ... | - | 1 |
| 7. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | 7 | 21 |
| 8. | Coronary diseases, Angina | ... | 16 | 13 |
| 9. | Hypertension with heart disease | ... | - | 2 |
| 0. | Other heart disease | ... | 8 | 16 |
| 1. | Other circulatory diseases | ... | 3 | 3 |
| 2. | Influenza | ... | 1 | - |
| 3. | Pneumonia | ... | 4 | 2 |
| 4. | Bronchitis | ... | 6 | 2 |
| 5. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | - | 1 |
| 6. | Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum | ... | 2 | - |
| 7. | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Nephritis and Nephrosis | ... | 1 | - |
| 9. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | 4 | - |
| 0. | Pregnancy, child birth and abortion | ... | - | - |
| 1. | Congenital malformation | ... | 1 | - |
| 2. | Other defined and illdefined diseases | ... | 5 | 5 |
| 3. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | - | 1 |
| 4. | All other accidents | ... | 1 | 2 |
| 5. | Suicide | ... | - | 4 |
| 6. | Homicide and operations of war | ... | - | - |

There is an increase in the total deaths and in the death rate. The accident and suicide figures are high for the year under review - from suicide, one accidental Carbon monoxide poisoning, two from drowning (M. aged 7 years and F. aged 14 years) and one from a fractured skull caused by a road accident (age 1 year 9 months). The infant death occurred, a M. aged 5 weeks from congenital heart disease.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.
Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory service was reorganised during the year 1955 and from September the work was transferred from the Kent County Council to the Medical Research Council and administered by their Medical Officer. The work is still carried out at Maidstone and the Laboratories continue to give an adequate, prompt and satisfactory service for the needs of the Area.

Ambulance.

The Ambulance Service is administered by the County Council and the area is adequately served under this scheme.

Nursing Homes, Convalescent Homes and Residential Homes for elderly persons.

The Registration of Nursing Homes is administered by the County Council. There are two Nursing Homes in Hythe, one taking mainly maternity cases and the other mainly surgical and medical cases.

There are also several Residential Homes for old people and Convalescent Homes for young children in the Borough.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services and the Hythe Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Prospect Road continues to be used for this purpose.

Diphtheria Immunisations and Vaccinations are carried out at the Centre on every Tuesday afternoon. The attendances have been well maintained and good use is made of the many other services provided at the Centre.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year:-

| Diseases | No. of cases Notified | No. of cases removed to Hospital | Total Deaths |
|--|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 6 | 1 | - |
| Whooping Cough | 14 | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - |
| Measles | 232 | 5 | - |
| Pneumonia | 16 | 2 | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 1 | - | - |
| Meningococcal infections | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | - |
| Total | 271 | 10 | 1 |

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

No cases of food poisoning or Dysentery were notified during the current year. Apart from the expected two yearly peak of measles cases there is a very low incidence of infectious disease. There were however two severe cases of Acute Poliomyelitis. One of the cases, a middle aged man, was admitted to Hospital but did not respond to treatment and his condition gradually worsened till he eventually died, the other was a young girl who steadily recovered from the acute stage and who is continuing to make progress. There was no connection between the two cases.

TUBERCULOSIS 1955.

| <u>Age Periods</u> | <u>New Cases</u> | | | | <u>Deaths</u> | | | | <u>Recoveries</u> | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Non-</u> | | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Non-</u> | | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Pulm:</u> | |
| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
| 0. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1. | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| 15. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20. | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25. | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| 35. | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - |
| 55. | 3 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 65. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| age not known | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 6 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 5 | 3 | 1 | - |

* Our records give one more death from Tuberculosis than is shown in the Registrar General's statistics.

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.55 = 57

| | | <u>Pulmonary</u> | | <u>Non-Pulmonary</u> | | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|--------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | |
| Numbers for | 1955 | 31 | 23 | 1 | 2 | 57 |
| " | " 1954 | 36 | 24 | - | 1 | 61 |
| " | " 1953 | 32 | 23 | - | 1 | 56 |
| " | " 1952 | 31 | 20 | 1 | 2 | 54 |
| " | " 1951 | 33 | 22 | 2 | 1 | 58 |
| " | " 1950 | 32 | 24 | 2 | 1 | 59 |
| " | " 1949 | 27 | 27 | 2 | 2 | 58 |

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

These services are administered by the Kent County Council and the work is carried out at Welfare Centres and by Private Practitioners. Our thanks are again due to the County Medical Officer of Health for his courtesy in making available to us his figures relating to these services.

Immunisation.

During the year 114 children received primary inoculations against Diphtheria and 81 received reinforcing inoculations. A total of 322 children of 0 - 4 years had been immunised by the end of 1955. These figures differ little from those of the previous year.

Vaccination.

The number of children under one year of age vaccinated against smallpox was 46. Of the children aged 0 - 4 years 85 received primary vaccination; this shows a decrease in the number of children protected compared with the year 1954.

Care of Old People.

- The Old Peoples Club in Hythe continues to provide a Social Centre for elderly persons and is well used and much appreciated. The experimental Chiropody service has proved so useful that it has become an established institution. The work has been carried out by
- (1) Mr. W.S. Spendlove who gave 240 treatments during the year; as in the previous year he treated these cases for a much reduced fee and, apart from his work in Hythe he has also visited surrounding rural areas to take this service to others who need it.
 - (2) Mr. H.G. Pettitt of Seabrook Road, Hythe has given 73 treatments to elderly persons residing in the Seabrook and Horn Street areas of Hythe and in surrounding rural areas under similar financial arrangements.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.SECTION D.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Water.

The district is supplied by the Council's own water undertaking and the supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity for the need of the static population.

Examinations of samples taken during the Year.

| | No. | Bacteriological | No. | Chemical |
|---------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| Raw Water | 84 | 72 satisfactory 12 unsatisfactory | 24 | 24 satisfactory |
| Treated Water | 15 | 15 satisfactory | - | - |
| Total | 99 | | 24 | |

Approximately 99% of the total number of dwelling houses is supplied by public water mains and the rest by means of standpipes.

All supplies are chlorinated before entry to the distributing main.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No additions or improvements have been made and no new schemes of construction have been brought forward during the year.

General.Housing Inspection:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| For defects and nuisances | 227 |
| Verminous Conditions | 7 |
| Water Supply | 4 |
| Cesspools and Drainage | 116 |
| Certificates of Disrepair | 17 |
| Improvement Grants | 71 |

Infectious Disease:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Inquiry Visits | 34 |
|----------------|----|

Food Premises:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Milk Distributors | 24 |
| Bakehouses and Bakers Shops | 26 |
| Restaurants and Hotels | 15 |
| Butchers | 31 |
| Fishmongers and Poulterers | 16 |
| Grocers | 52 |
| Greengrocers and Fruiterers | 11 |
| Ice Cream | 33 |
| Public Slaughterhouse | 681 |
| Other Meat and Food Inspections | 108 |
| Food Sampling | 51 |

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Factories:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Factories with Mechanical Power | 21 |
| Factories without Mechanical Power | 16 |
| Means of Escape in case of Fire | 11 |

Trade Premises:

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Shops (Shops Act) | 18 |
| Piggeries | 20 |
| Caravan Sites | 69 |

Rodent Control:

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Dwelling Houses | 18 |
| Business Premises | 5 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 224 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Miscellaneous (not classified) | 140 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-------|-------------|
| Total | <u>2066</u> |
|-------|-------------|

Analysis of Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----|
| Houses: | Roofs | 11 |
| | Walls (external) | 2 |
| | Chimneys and Stacks | 1 |
| | Rainwater Pipes | 2 |
| | Gutters | 4 |
| | Dampness | 11 |
| | Wallplaster | 4 |
| | Ceilings | 4 |
| | Floors | 5 |
| | Windows | 12 |
| | Sashcords | 5 |
| | Additional Lighting and Ventilation | 1 |
| | Doors | 3 |
| | Fireplaces and Cooking Ranges | 2 |
| | Sink Waste Pipes | 2 |
| | Miscellaneous | 2 |
| Drainage: | Drains cleared | 5 |
| | Drains repaired | 5 |
| | New Drains | 2 |
| | Other Defects | 3 |
| Water Closets: | Repaired | 5 |
| | Renewed | 3 |
| Dustbins: | New provided | 23 |
| Miscellaneous: | Offensive Accumulations | 4 |
| Food Premises: | Redecorated | 4 |
| | Cleansed | 2 |
| | Washing Facilities provided | 2 |
| | Hot Water supplies provided | 1 |
| | Sinks provided | 2 |
| | Fittings renewed | 2 |
| | Yard paving repaired | 1 |
| | Protection of Foodstuffs | 2 |
| | W.Cs. provided | 1 |
| | W.Cs. cleansed | 2 |
| Contraventions: | Factories | 4 |

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

| | <u>No. in District</u> | <u>No. of Inspections</u> | <u>No. of Defects Found</u> | <u>No. of Defects remedied</u> |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bakehouses | 5 | 26 | - | - |
| Dairies | 3 | 24 | - | - |
| Ice Cream premises | 35 | 23 | - | - |
| Slaughterhouses | 1 | 681 | (public slaughterhouse) | |
| Other places where food is prepared or sold | 66 | 108 | 19 | 19 |
| Factories (other than for food preparation) | 68 | 48 | 4 | 4 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year..... | 2066 |
| No. of premises connected to main sewers..... | 2829 |
| No. of premises connected to cesspools..... | 119 |
| No. of premises with pail closets..... | 4 |
| No. of premises with earth closets or middens..... | 2 |
| No. of premises not connected to Public Water Supply..... | 12 |
| No. of Statutory Notices served..... | 2 |
| No. of Informal Notices served..... | 47 |
| No. of premises disinfected..... | 21 |

| <u>Notices Served</u> | <u>Informal</u> | <u>Formal</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Public Health and Housing Acts | 47 | 2 |
| Food and Drugs Act | 8 | - |
| Factories Act | 4 | - |

Rodent Control.

Treatment of infestation of private dwellings is carried out free of charge, but charges are made for rodent control work done at other premises. The following table shows the rodent control work carried out during the year.

| Year ended 31st December, 1955 | <u>Type of Property</u> | | | | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Local Authority</u> | <u>Dwelling Houses</u> | <u>Agri-cultural</u> | <u>All other (including Business)</u> | |
| Properties inspected | | | | | |
| (a) By notification | 4 | 90 | - | 7 | 101 |
| (b) Otherwise | 4 | 13 | 6 | 208 | 231 |
| No. of properties found to be infested by rats: | | | | | |
| Major | - | - | - | - | - |
| Minor | 7 | 92 | - | 5 | 104 |
| No. of infested properties treated | 7 | 92 | - | 5 | 104 |
| No. of treatments (inc.re-treatments) | 15 | 106 | - | 8 | 129 |
| No. of properties found to be infested by mice: | | | | | |
| Major | - | - | - | - | - |
| Minor | - | 5 | - | 2 | 7 |
| No. of infested properties treated | - | 5 | - | 2 | 7 |
| No. of treatments (inc.re-treatments) | - | 5 | - | 2 | 7 |
| No. of visits recorded by Rodent Operator | 78 | 483 | - | 55 | 621 |

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BOROUGH OF HYTHER.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Details of Disinfections and Disinfestations carried out by the department during the year are given below.

| | |
|--|----|
| Premises disinfected (after infectious disease) | 10 |
| Articles of bedding, etc. disinfected | 2 |
| Library Books disinfected | 20 |
| Premises treated for fleas | 7 |
| " " " other vermin | 4 |
| Wasps' Nests destroyed | 49 |

5. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

No alterations have been made in the arrangements for Collection and Disposal of Refuse during the year. A weekly collection from all premises has been made but from hotels, restaurants and other special premises additional collections, twice or three times weekly, have been made to cope with seasonal increases.

Two S.D. Freighters (side loading) are employed in the work of refuse collection - one 7 yard and one 10 yard. The small S.D. Freighter, purchased in 1947, is now in bad condition and should be replaced during the forthcoming year. It is recommended that this should be replaced with one 18 yard rear loading two way tipping vehicle. The larger vehicle is required to deal with the increase in load which is likely to take place during the next five years and a rear loading vehicle facilitates cleaner loading.

157 cesspool emptyings have been carried out during the year at a cost of £219.17.6d. This work is done by contract.

The costs of refuse collection and disposal based on an estimated population of 9,320 were:-

| | <u>per 1,000 population</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Refuse Collection | £540 |
| Refuse Disposal | £59 |

Salvage.

The income from salvage sales during the year is as follows:-

| | Tons | Cwts | Qrs | Lbs | £ | s. | d. |
|----------------------|------|------|-----|-----|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Waste Paper | 16 | 19 | 1 | - | 134 | 2 | 6 |
| Kitchen Waste | 67 | 19 | - | - | 360 | - | - |
| Textiles | - | 9 | 1 | 21 | 10 | 10 | - |
| Metals - Ferrous | 9 | 9 | - | - | 39 | 15 | 8 |
| Metals - Non Ferrous | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| | | | | | <u>£551</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>5</u> |

(11)
BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION E.

FOOD.

(a) Milk and Dairies.

The Registrations and Licences issued by the Council during the year were as follows:-

| | |
|--|---|
| Registered Dairies | 4 |
| Registered Distributors | 9 |
| Tuberculin Tested - Dealer's Licence | 4 |
| Pasteurised - Dealer's Licence | 4 |
| Tuberculin Tested - Supplementary Dealer's Licence | 5 |
| Pasteurised - Supplementary Dealer's Licence | 5 |

The following samples under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 were taken during the year:-

| | <u>Samples Taken</u> | <u>Unsatisfactory</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk | 1 | Nil |
| Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk | 9 | 1 |
| Tuberculin Tested Channel Island Milk | 1 | 1 |
| Channel Island Pasteurised Milk. | 4 | Nil |
| Pasteurised Milk | 12 | 1 |
| | <u>27</u> | <u>3</u> |

The Milk (Special Designations)(Specified Areas) Order, 1955, came into force in this area on December 6th, 1955. The effect of this Order is to prohibit the sale of any milk in the area other than specially designated milk.

(b) Ice Cream.

The following samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

| | <u>Samples</u> | <u>Grade 1</u> | <u>Grade 2</u> | <u>Grade 3</u> | <u>Grade 4</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wrapped | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Part Wrapped | 6 | 5 | 1 | - | - |
| Unwrapped (from bulk containers) | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Total | <u>12</u> | <u>11</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

All samples within Grades 1 and 2 are satisfactory and represent a fair section of this retail business within the Borough.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year fourteen samples of food were taken for analysis under the above Act and the following is a precis of the Analysts reports and action taken.

| <u>Samples</u> | <u>Analysts Report</u> | <u>Action Taken</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Pork Sausage Meat | Inedible Scrap 20% | Warning sent to vendor. |
| Chocolate Fudge | No chemical or metallic contamination. | Consignments released for consumption. |
| Tinned Ox Tongue | Cultures sterile. | Consignments released for consumption. |
| School Milk - Pasteurised | Contained dirt consisting almost entirely of dung. 50 parts per 100,000. | Legal proceedings. Fine £10 and costs. Dismissed on appeal. |
| School Milk - Pasteurised | Contained a pellett of rodent excreta. | Legal proceedings. Fine £10 and costs. Confirmed on appeal. |

Nine other samples of school milk (pasteurised) were submitted for analysis and reports stated that the bottles were not properly cleansed. Notifications were sent to the various authorities concerned and the supply of this milk to the schools was discontinued.

(c) Meat (Home Killed)
Public Slaughterhouse.

Table overleaf.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

| | Cattle Excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed | 356 | 177 | 1602 | 1955 | 9493 | - |
| Number inspected | 356 | 177 | 1602 | 1955 | 9493 | - |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | 6 | - | - 7 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 30 | 31 | 1 | 29 | 160 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 8.43 | 17.51 | 0.44 | 1.48 | 1.76 | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only:</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | - | - | - 4 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 13 | 28 | - | - | 90 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 3.65 | 15.82 | - | - | 0.99 | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

The table shows the first full years working at the Public Slaughterhouse since the release of the Ministry of Food control. The principal item of interest is that there was a general increase in the number of animals killed during the year. The increase, however, was due to a much larger number of pigs killed for local consumption while there was a decrease in the number of cattle killed. The greater selection in buying at the markets which can be exercised under private control is noticeably shown by the lower percentages of meat condemned during the year. The total weight of meat condemned at the Public Slaughterhouse as diseased, unsound or unwholesome was 2 tons 1 cwt 3 qrs 4½ lbs.

The working arrangements between the staff of the Public Health Department and the Hythe Slaughtering Company during the year has been excellent. The Company has installed new machinery which greatly facilitates working and increases output.

(a) Meat and Other Foods.

During the year the following foodstuffs were surrendered as unsound or unfit for food in shops and other premises where food is prepared or sold.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 tins Vegetables | 3 lbs. |
| 2 " Soup | 2 lbs. |
| 1 " Tongue | 6 lbs. |
| 1 " Cream | 6 ozs. |
| 16 " Fruit | 16 lbs. 9 ozs. |
| 3 " Ham | 35 lbs. 15 ozs. |
| 70 pkts Milk Chocolate | |
| Seedless Raisins | 8 lbs. 12 ozs. |
| New Zealand Cheese | 28 lbs. |
| Meat - Home Killed | 48 lbs. |
| " Imported | 3 cwts. 2 qrs. 26½ lbs. |
| Fish | 22½ stone |

Food Shops and Food Handling.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938 is now superseded by the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. This Act gives wider powers with regard to the control of food shops and food handling and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 come into force on 1st January, 1956. These Regulations provide for the equipment of all food shops with wash-basins, sinks, hot water supplies, sanitary conveniences, etc., and lay down a standard code of practice for persons engaged in food handling. Many occupiers of food shops have already co-operated with the Local Authority in providing these standards and care has been taken to see that new shops are properly equipped the help and co-operation of the Borough Surveyor and the Building Inspector in this matter has been fully appreciated.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 125 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 227 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 91 |

(15)
BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit
in consequence of informal action by the Local
Authority or their officers 47

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring defects to be
remedied 2
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects
were remedied after service of formal notices
- (a) By Owners 1
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 1

B. Proceedings under Housing Act

1. Number of dwelling houses included in proposals
submitted to the Minister to be dealt with
under Sections 11 or 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 40
2. Number of dwelling houses in Clearance Areas
and already covered by operative Clearance
Orders 4
3. Number of dwelling houses included in Clearance
Areas submitted to the Minister during the year 12
4. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
undertakings from owners not to use the houses
for habitation were accepted 3
5. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
Closing Orders or undertakings were determined Nil

Housing Rents and Repairs Act, 1954 - Section 23.

Six applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the
above Act have been received during the year. In consequence of
these applications notices were served on the owners calling
attention to defects and items of repair which should be remedied
before increases in rent were applied.

In all these cases the owners carried out the suggested
repairs and the tenants withdrew their applications.

Housing Act, 1949 - Section 20.

Thirteen applications for Grants under the above Act to improve
some eighteen houses have been received during the year. One
application was refused, and one which was approved has since been
withdrawn by the applicant.

This method of raising the standard of the older houses, often
lacking in modern amenities, to that accepted today has from
practical experience proved to be most successful and leaves no
doubt as to the advantages to be gained in providing modern
comfortable living conditions in these types of houses.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.Council Houses.

442 Council houses were in occupation at the end of the year.

42 Council houses were completed in 1955 making a total of 201 completed since the War.

The houses comprise the following types:-

| <u>3 bedrooms</u> | <u>2 bedrooms</u> | <u>1 bedroom</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 263 | 124 | 55 |

Six premises providing eight housing units were derequisitioned during the year and there are now no premises remaining under requisition.

There are no temporary dwellings in the ownership of the Council.

The income of the Repairs Account for the year ending 31st March, 1955 was £3,913.10.5d. and the expenditure was £3,463.1.9d. the balance in hand at that date being £2,684.12.0d.

The tenants of 181 Council houses, built before 1939, which have no constant hot water supplies, wash basins or deep sinks were asked if they wished to have these facilities provided on payment of a weekly addition to the rent, fixed in accordance with the cost of the work. Sixty tenants replied that they would like to accept this offer, a large majority electing to have electric water heaters. As this work entails considerable alterations of outside service mains, which are inadequate to deal with the additional load required, there has been delay on the part of the Electricity undertaking in arranging for the commencement of the work, but they hope to be in a position to do so early in 1956.

All applications for Council houses have been examined in detail and classified by the Tenancy Selection Committee during the year as shown in the following table:-

Analysis of list of applications for Council Houses at December, 1955

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of applications - 2 or 3 bedroom houses | 146 |
| No. of applications - 1 bedroom flats or bungalows | 66 |
| | 212 |

| | <u>2 or 3 bedroomed accommodation</u> | <u>1 bedroom accommodation</u> |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Applications under consideration from people residing in the Borough | 38 | 25 |
| Deferred applications from people residing in the Borough | 61 | 21 |
| Deferred applications from people residing outside the Borough | 47 | 20 |

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.SECTION G.FACTORIES.

One power factory was added to the register during the year and three power factories deleted.

The present number of factories is as follows:-

Non power factories

(Factories where Sections 1,2,3,4

& 6, are enforced by Local Authorities) 47

Power Factories

(Factories not included in the above
where Section 7 is enforced by Local
Authorities)

37

Total 84

Means of escape in case of fire have been re-surveyed with the Kent Fire Brigade, in all cases where Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937 applies, and amended Certificates issued.



(1)

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

| | |
|--|--|
| <u>AREA:</u> | 51,398 acres |
| <u>POPULATION:</u> | |
| The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year population of the District was 10,560 an increase of 70 on last year's figure. (10,490) | |
| <u>NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:</u> | 3,592 |
| <u>ASSESSABLE VALUE:</u> | £50,828 |
| <u>POOR REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE:</u> | £200 (estimated) |
| <u>STAFF:</u> | |
| Sanitary Inspector | Mr. R. Stevenson M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. |
| Deputy Operator and General Assistant under the Public Health Dept. | Mr. H.C. Simpkins |
| Clerical Assistant (part time) | Miss A. Williams |
| Refuse and Salvage Collectors | Two driver/loaders and one loader. |

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Total M. F. | | | | East Ashford R.D. | England and Wales |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----|----|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Live Births | 137 | 78 | 59 | Birth rate | 14.5 | 15.0 |
| (a) Legitimate | 135 | 76 | 59 | per 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | 2 | 2 | - | estimated | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population | | |
| 2. Still Births | 4 | 3 | 1 | Rate per | 28.3 | 23.1 |
| (a) Legitimate | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1,000 (live | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | and still) | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 3. Deaths | 108 | 67 | 41 | Death rate | 7.86 | 11.7 |
| | | | | per 1,000 | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population | | |
| 4. Deaths from | | | | | | |
| Puerperal Causes | - | - | - | | - | 0.64 |
| (a) Maternal Causes | | | | Rate per | | |
| (excluding | | | | 1,000 | | |
| abortion) | - | - | - | (live & | - | 0.54 |
| (b) Due to abortion | - | - | - | still) | - | 0.10 |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5. Deaths of Infants | | | | | | |
| under one year of | | | | | | |
| age (all causes) | 4 | 3 | 1 | Rate per | 29.2 | 24.9 |
| (a) Legitimate | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | live | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5A. Deaths of Infants | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | |
| under 4 weeks of | | | | | | |
| age | | | | | | |
| 6. Deaths from | | | | Rate | | |
| Tuberculosis | | | | | | |
| (a) Respiratory | 2 | 2 | - | per | 0.18 | 0.13 |
| (b) Other Tuberculosis | - | - | - | | - | 0.015 |
| 7. Deaths from Cancer | | | | 1,000 | | |
| (a) Cancer of lung and | | | | | | |
| bronchus | 2 | 2 | - | estimated | 0.18 | 0.38 |
| (b) Other Cancer | 19 | 10 | 9 | | 1.79 | 1.66 |
| 8. Deaths from other | | | | resident | | |
| diseases | | | | | | |
| Deaths from Pneumonia | 1 | 1 | - | population | 0.09 | 0.505 |
| Deaths from Influenza | - | - | - | | - | 0.068 |
| Deaths from Acute | | | | | | |
| Poliomyelitis | - | - | - | | - | - |
| (including Polio- encephalitis) | | | | | | |

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Causes of Death 1955.

| ALL CAUSES | | | Males 67 | Females 41 |
|------------|---|-----|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | 2 | - |
| 2. | Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic Diseases | ... | 1 | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Measles | ... | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | - | - |
| 0. | Cancer of the stomach | ... | 2 | - |
| 1. | Cancer of lungs and bronchus | ... | 2 | - |
| 2. | Cancer of breast | ... | - | 2 |
| 3. | Cancer of uterus | ... | - | 3 |
| 4. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | ... | 8 | 4 |
| 5. | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia (cancer) | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Diabetes | ... | - | 1 |
| 7. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | 3 | 7 |
| 8. | Coronary disease, Angina | ... | 14 | 5 |
| 9. | Hypertension with heart disease | ... | 2 | 2 |
| 0. | Other heart disease | ... | 11 | 9 |
| 1. | Other circulatory diseases | ... | 2 | - |
| 2. | Influenza | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Pneumonia | ... | 1 | - |
| 4. | Bronchitis | ... | 6 | 2 |
| 5. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | 2 | - |
| 6. | Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Nephritis and Nephrosis | ... | 2 | 2 |
| 9. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | 1 | - |
| 0. | Pregnancy, child birth and abortion | ... | - | - |
| 1. | Congenital malformation | ... | 1 | - |
| 2. | Other defined and illdefined diseases | ... | 4 | 2 |
| 3. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 4. | All other accidents | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 5. | Suicide | ... | 1 | - |
| 6. | Homicide and operations of war | ... | - | - |

The number of deaths has increased by 12 - some of these are counted for by motor and other accidents.

There were four infant deaths, three males and one female; one M. aged 7 months died from congenital heart disease, one M. aged 1 day from prematurity and one M. aged 1 day from prematurity with lung collapse, one F. aged 6 hours died as a result of prematurity.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION. OF HEALTH SERVICES.
Laboratory Facilities.

These were provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone until the end of September 1955; after that date the work was carried out under the direction of the Medical Research Council acting for the Ministry of Health. The service continues to be satisfactory in every way.

Ambulance.

An ambulance service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade working with the County Council Ambulance Department. The ambulances are stationed at Ashford and give an efficient and satisfactory service.

Nursing Homes and Residential Homes.

The registration of Nursing Homes is a duty delegated to this Authority by the Kent County Council. There is one such home in the area taking 10 medical cases. There is also one Residential Home for elderly persons in the area.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.Notifiable Diseases.

| Disease | <u>No. of cases</u> <u>Notified</u> | <u>No. of cases</u> <u>removed to</u> <u>Hospital</u> | <u>Total</u> <u>Deaths</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | 2 | - |
| Whooping Cough | 17 | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | 1 | - | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - |
| Measles | 253 | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 20 | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | - | - |
| Meningococcal infections | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 4 | 4 | - |
| Food Poisoning | 9 | 4 | - |
| Total | 306 | 11 | - |

The number of cases of infectious disease was generally low, but the usual two yearly peak of measles again occurred and there were more notifications of Pneumonia. There were four cases of Acute Poliomyelitis and all were confirmed and all had some degree of paralysis. Two, a boy of 14 and a girl of 13 living within 3 miles of one another were removed to Pembury Hospital with involvement of the throat muscles, both fortunately made a complete recovery. The third case - a girl of 15 - was a visitor in the area and the fourth a girl of 6 with paralysis in one leg made a good recovery after a period of treatment in hospital.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Food Poisoning.

A severe but self contained outbreak of food poisoning occurred which nine persons, together with five visitors, were affected. Stools from the nine residents gave cultures of *Salmonella typhi* murium and some of the visitors also are known to have had positive results. All partook of the same food and the only members of the household not to be involved were the two very young children of the family who did not eat any of the food. The young son of one of the domestic staff had some of the mayonnaise (but none of the salmon) the following day at lunch and developed the illness about 18 hours later than the others.

Fortunately there was ample food left over (and stored in a refrigerator) and samples were taken to the Laboratory at Maidstone for examination. *Salmonella typhi* murium was found to be present in the mayonnaise which had been prepared with raw duck eggs. The eggs came from a few Khaki Campbell ducks kept for supplying the household and further eggs were collected and sent for examination but with negative results. The owner willingly agreed to the slaughter of these birds, 7 in number, for further investigation which was carried out by the Veterinary Investigation Centre at Wye. The results showed positive agglutination tests for *Salmonella typhi* murium from three of the birds and doubtful results in a fourth. Bacteriological examination proved positive for two of the ducks (positive also to the agglutination test). In one case the organism was recovered from the ovary and in the other from both ovary and intestine.

TUBERCULOSIS 1955.

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | | Recoveries | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|--------|----|-----------|----|------------|----|-----------|----|
| | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35. | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Age not known | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.55 = 84

| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Total |
|-----------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Number for 1955 | 37 | 30 | 11 | 6 | 84 |
| " " 1954 | 31 | 30 | 14 | 6 | 81 |
| " " 1953 | 27 | 24 | 13 | 6 | 70 |
| " " 1952 | 24 | 23 | 13 | 5 | 65 |
| " " 1951 | 23 | 23 | 14 | 5 | 65 |
| " " 1950 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 5 | 61 |
| " " 1949 | 19 | 20 | 16 | 7 | 62 |

The number of cases on the Pulmonary Tuberculosis register has risen by three, but fewer new cases were notified than in 1949.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

It is again possible, through the courtesy of the County Medical Officer of Health, to give figures relating to these services.

Immunisation.

During the year under review 111 children received primary inoculations and 146 reinforcing doses. Of the children 0-4 years of age a total of 313 have completed a course of immunisation. The figures are approximately the same as for 1954 and it is disappointing that the propaganda so carefully carried out by Health Visitors and others has born so little fruit.

Vaccination.

During the year 43 infants of under one year were vaccinated and of the children 0-4 years 80 had received primary vaccination against Smallpox by the end of the year. These figures show a slight decrease on those of the previous year.

Care of Old People.

Four successful Clubs were in being by the end of 1955 at Wye, Boughton with Eastwell, Chilham and Hamstreet and well fulfilled their function of bringing the old people together for mutual friendship and entertainment. The Chiropody service has not progressed as much as was anticipated due to the distances the Chiropodist has to travel, but it is hoped some satisfactory arrangement can be made in the near future.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.(1) Water.

A system of water mains exists in every parish of the Rural District and the supply generally is good. During the year 1955 extensions of water mains were carried out at Black Wall Road Hinxhill, Old Naccolt, Wye, and Hampton Lane Brabourne.

The following is a list showing the number and proportion of houses connected with main water supplies in each parish of the Rural District in 1955:-

| PARISH | No. of dwelling houses. | No. of houses connected with:- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Mid-Kent Water Co's Mains | Ashford Urban Supply | Folkestone Water Co. |
| Aldington | 263 | 231 | | |
| Bilsington | 102 | 95 | | |
| Bonnington | 38 | 36 | | |
| Boughton Aluph | 217 | 207 | | |
| Brabourne | 259 | 223 | | |
| Brook | 66 | 72 | | |
| Challock | 118 | 132 | | |
| Chilham | 448 | 414 | | |
| Crundale | 63 | 61 | | |
| Eastwell | 41 | 25 | | |
| Godmersham | 97 | 96 | | |
| Hastingleigh | 72 | 84 | | |
| Hinxhill | 20 | - | 20 | |
| Mersham | 265 | 232 | | |
| Molash | 79 | 81 | | |
| Orlestone | 203 | 186 | | |
| Ruckinge | 229 | 184 | | |
| Sevington | 65 | 3 | 43 | |
| Smeeth | 221 | 194 | | 13 |
| Warehorne | 116 | 106 | | |
| Wye | 610 | 501 | 9 | |
| Totals | 3592 | 3163 | 72 | 13 |

The Mid-Kent Water Company have monthly bacteriological examinations of the raw water taken from each of their Pumping Stations; all water is chlorinated. Particulars of the examinations and analyses are supplied and there has been no form of contamination. The Ashford Urban Water Supply is subject to routine sampling of the water both for bacteriological (quarterly) and chemical analyses. The reports have been entirely satisfactory.

124 more houses, including new houses, were connected with existing water mains during the year 1955.

Almost 91% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district are supplied by public water mains and a very few by stand pipes.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.(2) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The villages of Wye and Hamstreet are drained and sewered. Smaller scale sewerage systems also drain parts of Mersham, The Square, Chilham and Brabourne Lees. Schemes for new sewerage and sewage disposal works at Hamstreet and Wye are still awaiting decision.

(3) General.

| | <u>No. in</u> <u>District</u> | <u>No. of</u> <u>Inspections</u> | <u>No. of defects</u> <u>found</u> | <u>No. of</u> <u>defects</u> <u>remedied</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Bakehouses | 4 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| Dairies | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Ice Cream premises | 34 | 9 | - | - |
| Slaughterhouses | 5 | 158 | 3 | 3 |
| Other places where food is prepared | 9 | 11 | - | - |
| Offensive Trades | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| Factories | 47 | 23 | 3 | 3 |

Analysis of Nuisances and Defects remedied during the year under
Public Health and Housing Acts.

| | |
|--|----|
| Water Supplies | 6 |
| Roofs | 17 |
| Walls (external) | 19 |
| Chimney stacks | 5 |
| Rainwater pipes | 9 |
| Gutters | 7 |
| Dampness | 13 |
| Wall plaster | 15 |
| Ceilings | 13 |
| Floors | 9 |
| Windows | 5 |
| Sashcords | - |
| Additional lighting | 4 |
| Additional ventilation | 3 |
| Doors | 7 |
| Cooking and heating appliances | 3 |
| Baths, lavatory basins and sinks | 7 |
| Drainage - | |
| (a) Reconstructed and new | 26 |
| (b) Repaired | 10 |
| (c) Cleared | 3 |
| Septic tank plant and cesspools repair | 9 |
| Other defects | |
| Closet (a) Renewed | 7 |
| accommodation (b) Repaired | 3 |
| Offensive Accumulations | 1 |
| Keeping of Animals | 2 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year..... | 2432 |
| No. of premises connected to main sewers..... | 664 |
| No. of premises connected to cesspools..... | 2928 |
| No. of premises with pail closets..... | 956 |
| No. of premises with earth closets or middens..... | 41 |
| No. of premises not connected to Public Water Supply..... | 335 |
| No. of Statutory Notices served..... | - |
| No. of Informal Notices served..... | 42 |
| No. of premises disinfected..... | 19 |

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Statutory Notices Served.Under the Housing Acts:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Notices of Intention to consider the making of Demolition Orders..... | 1 |
| Demolition Orders..... | - |
| Notices of Intention to consider the making of Closing Orders | 2 |
| Closing Orders..... | 2 |
| Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 (Repairs)..... | - |

Under the Public Health Act, 1936:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Nuisance Abatement Notices..... | 2 |
| Water Supplies (Section 138)..... | - |
| Total | <u>7</u> |

(4) Control of Infestation.Rodent Control.

185 infestations with rats and mice were dealt with by the Council's part time Rodent Operator. Routine baiting and gassing of rats on the Council's three refuse tips was undertaken and satisfactory results obtained. An annual retest of the Council's sewerage systems at Wye, Hamstreet, Merham and Brabourne Lees again gave negative results. There are no large scale sources of rat infestation in the district.

Insect Infestation.

17 infestations with fleas, ants, cockroaches, flies, wasps, etc. were dealt with. Advice is frequently sought on methods of dealing with these infestations and sprayers and powder blowers with insecticides are loaned on request.

(5) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection of house refuse is undertaken by direct labour with a Dennis 15 cubic yard rear loading barrier type covered refuse vehicle having a separate salvage compartment. Two driver/loaders and one loader are employed on this work.

The major part of the district is covered by a fortnightly collection, with a weekly collection in the town area of Wye and a four-weekly collection in certain scattered and less populated areas.

Three refuse tips are in use for the disposal of house refuse, the first being near Drylands Farm, Molash, the second at White Hill, Boughton Aluph, and the third at the Kent County Council Quarry Aldington. Two of these refuse tips consist of large disused chalk pits and the other is the disused part of a rock quarry.

Salvage.

During the year 1955, 118 tons of baled waste paper was sold for £952.1.7d., also 17 cwt of rags valued at £19.5.7d. and 1 ton 9 cwt of metals valued at £15.18.8d. The total income from salvage was £987.5.10d.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Emptying of cesspools.

The emptying of cesspools in all parts of the district is undertaken by the Council twice yearly on written request being made by householders. During the year 1955 the number emptied was 1,373. This work is carried out by contract.

Emptying of pail closets.

There are still a number of houses in the area with this primitive method of sanitation. The emptying of these pail-closets is carried out in the parish of Boughton Aluph and part of the Parish of Chilham. In the parish of Boughton Aluph the emptying takes place once weekly, by contract, and the number to be emptied is approximately 69. In the parish of Chilham the emptying is carried out twice weekly in an area covering The Square, The Street and the Railway Station and the number to be emptied remains at 30.

SECTION E.FOOD.(a) Milk.

Apart from producer retailers there are only four retail dairies in the district and none for the wholesale handling or distribution of milk.

No samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

(b) Ice Cream.

34 shops and other premises are registered for the sale or storage of Ice Cream. There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the district.

(c) Meat.
Slaughterhouses.

There are five Licensed slaughterhouses in the District but only three were in regular use and these were visited on 158 occasions for the purpose of meat inspection. All the animals slaughtered were in prime condition and did not include any cows or casualty animals. On seven occasions small quantities of meat or offal were condemned, the total weight being 208 lbs.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed | 218 | - | 34 | 340 | 254 | - |
| Number inspected | 218 | - | 34 | 340 | 254 | - |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 6 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 2.75 | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only:</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Other food preparing places.

There are only a few small establishments of this type in the District and these are visited from time to time; no serious defects were discovered.

SECTION F.HOUSING.

35 new Council houses were erected and completed in the District during the year 1955 in addition to 53 by private enterprise,

The total number of post war houses erected to 31/12/55 is 632

Housing Acts, 1949 to 1954 - Improvement Grant.

During the year 1955, 26 houses were improved and modernised with grant aid; the total amount paid as Improvement Grant in respect of these houses was £5,242.

Legal Proceedings.

Application was made to the Court in respect of the following offences:-

Case No. 1 was in respect of the unauthorised use of a camping site after refusal by the Council of a Licence under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. A fine of £2 in addition to £3.3.0d. costs was imposed.

Case No. 2 was in respect of the non-abatement of a nuisance arising from the keeping of dogs and cats in an offensive condition inside a dwelling. On the first hearing of this case an order was made to abate this nuisance within six weeks and for payment of £2.10.6d. costs. As the nuisance remained unabated further application was made to the Court and the defendants were fined £1 as well as 1/- per day during which the nuisance remained unabated.

Action under Statutory Powers.

| | |
|---|---|
| Houses demolished in pursuance of sub-section (4) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936..... | - |
| Number of houses or parts of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936..... | 2 |
| Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were given to close for habitation - by the owners under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936..... | - |
| No. of houses repaired and made habitable on notice served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936..... | - |

Hop Pickers Camps.

Apart from the abolition of two camps comprising 79 huts due to the owner converting to machine picking, there has been little change in this accommodation apart from the usual maintenance repairs. There are now 14 camps, all in the Parish of Chilham at which 570 huts are still available for occupation although groups of huts at certain camps were unoccupied and appeared to be surplus to requirements. It is probable that the total number of pickers did not exceed 1,600. The huts were in reasonably good and weatherproof condition although some are aged and should be replaced

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Water supplies were almost entirely from the main supply and were sufficient for the needs of the pickers. Closet accommodation is entirely of the portable type. Although some improvement was noticeable in the upkeep and cleanliness of the closet accommodation and receptacles for refuse, some general untidiness of the camps still shows lack of co-operation. The camps were all inspected by the Sanitary Inspector before and during occupation, some 33 visits being made for this purpose. First aid Dispensaries operated again at certain of the camps and did a most useful work amongst the pickers.

(1)

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955

| | |
|---|--|
| <u>AREA:</u> | 36,685 acres |
| <u>POPULATION:</u> | |
| The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year population of the District was 9,290 (9,300 in 1954) | |
| <u>NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:</u> | 3,025 |
| <u>DATEABLE VALUE:</u> | £60,180 |
| <u>SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE:</u> | £242 (estimated) |
| <u>STAFF:</u> | |
| Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor. | Mr. Robert Finn, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector. |
| Clerk and Typist | Miss J. Smee resigned July 1955. Miss J.P. Scott commenced duties July 1955. |
| Refuse Collection and Sewagepool Emptying | 1 foreman 4 drivers 6 loaders 2 sewage disposal works attendants. |
| Modent Operator (part time) | Mr. E.C. Pidcock |

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Total | M. | F. | | Elham R.D. | Englar and Wal |
|--|-------|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Live Births | 117 | 68 | 49 | Birth rate | 10.95 | 15.0 |
| (a) Legitimate | 111 | 63 | 48 | per 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | 6 | 5 | 1 | estimated | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 2. Still Births | 1 | 1 | - | Rate per | 8.48 | 23.1 |
| (a) Legitimate | 1 | 1 | - | 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | (live and | | |
| | | | | still) | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 3. Deaths | 234 | 124 | 110 | Death rate | 16.6 | 11.7 |
| | | | | per 1,000 | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes | - | - | - | | - | 0.64 |
| (a) Maternal Causes | | | | Rate per | | |
| (excluding | | | | 1,000 | | |
| abortion) | - | - | - | (live & | - | 0.54 |
| (b) Due to abortion | - | - | - | still) | - | 0.10 |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes) | 4 | 3 | 1 | Rate per | 34.0 | 24.9 |
| | | | | 1,000 | | |
| (a) Legitimate | 4 | 3 | 1 | live | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | births | | |
| 5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | |
| 6. Deaths from tuberculosis | | | | Rate | | |
| (a) Respiratory | - | - | - | per | - | 0.13 |
| (b) Other Tuberculosis | - | - | - | 1,000 | - | 0.015 |
| | | | | estimated | | |
| 7. Deaths from Cancer | | | | | | |
| (a) Cancer of lung and bronchus | 11 | 9 | 2 | resident | 1.18 | 0.38 |
| (b) Other Cancer | 30 | 14 | 16 | population) | 3.22 | 1.66 |
| 8. Deaths from other diseases | | | | | | |
| Deaths from Pneumonia | 7 | 2 | 5 | | 0.75 | 0.505 |
| Deaths from Influenza | 1 | - | 1 | | 0.10 | 0.068 |
| Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis) | - | - | - | | - | |

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.Causes of Death 1955.

| ALL CAUSES | | | Males 124 | Females 110 |
|------------|--|-----|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | - | - |
| 2. | Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic Diseases | ... | - | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Measles | ... | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | 1 | - |
| 0. | Cancer of the stomach | ... | 4 | 2 |
| 1. | Cancer of lungs and bronchus | ... | 9 | 2 |
| 2. | Cancer of breast | ... | - | 4 |
| 3. | Cancer of uterus | ... | - | 1 |
| 4. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer) | ... | 10 | 9 |
| 5. | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | ... | - | 1 |
| 6. | Diabetes | ... | - | 3 |
| 7. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | 23 | 22 |
| 8. | Coronary disease, Angina | ... | 11 | 9 |
| 9. | Hypertension with heart disease. | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 0. | Other heart disease | ... | 31 | 26 |
| 1. | Other circulatory diseases | ... | 6 | 3 |
| 2. | Influenza | ... | - | 1 |
| 3. | Pneumonia | ... | 2 | 5 |
| 4. | Bronchitis | ... | 2 | 2 |
| 5. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | 3 | - |
| 6. | Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 7. | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Nephritis and Nephrosis | ... | 3 | - |
| 9. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | 2 | - |
| 0. | Pregnancy, child birth and abortion | ... | - | - |
| 1. | Congenital malformation | ... | - | - |
| 2. | Other defined and illdefined diseases | ... | 10 | 13 |
| 3. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | 2 | 1 |
| 4. | All other accidents | ... | 2 | 2 |
| 5. | Suicide | ... | 1 | - |
| 6. | Homicide and operations of war | ... | - | - |

As St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill is in this area all the deaths occurring there are returned as deaths in the Elham Rural District and are included in the above table and in the figure for estimating the death rate. The high figures for Cancer, Pneumonia and disease of the heart and blood vessels are due to the inclusion of deaths occurring in this residential hospital for aged persons.

The infant deaths (under one year) were four in number; three and one F. The causes were M. 2 weeks from Haemorrhagic bronchopneumonia, M. 3 minutes from Atelectasis, a M. 2 hours from cerebral haemorrhage; the F. infant lived only one minute and died from inhalation of fluids and Atelectasis. The number of deaths from motor and other accidents - seven in number - are to be explored. No children were involved.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.
Laboratory Facilities.

The Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone continued to serve the Area until September 1955, when the administration was transferred to the Medical Research Council. The work is still centred in Maidstone.

Ambulance.

This service is also under the Kent County Council and is working satisfactorily from the point of view of our area.

Nursing Homes, Convalescent Homes and Residential Homes for Aged Persons

The registration and supervision of Nursing Homes is carried out by the Kent County Council as the duties have not been delegated to the Rural District Council. There are three Homes in the Area taking convalescent patients and elderly residents.

Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery and Home Help Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services. The areas allotted to the County Council Health Visitors do not correspond with the District Council's areas but no difficulties or delays have arisen consequent on this.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.
Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year:-

| Diseases | <u>No. of cases notified</u> | <u>No. of cases removed to Hospital</u> | <u>No. of Deaths</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | 14 | 1 | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | 1 | - | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - |
| Measles | 326 | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 6 | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | - | - |
| Meningococcal Infections | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 3 | 3 | - |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | - |
| Total | 352 | 5 | - |

The incidence of infectious disease was very low except for the outbreak of measles. The three cases of Acute Poliomyelitis all suffered from some degree of paralysis. Two of the cases were young married women with children and the third was a girl of 3½ years. There would appear to have been contact between the child and one of the adult cases as the children of the two families were friends and visited each other daily. It is significant that both children were unwell at the same time, the little girl developed paralysis and was removed to hospital and the small boy recovered at home; his mother became acutely ill about 10 days later.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.TUBERCULOSIS 1955.

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | | Recoveries | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|--------|----|-----------|----|------------|----|-----------|----|
| | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | | Pulm: | | Non-Pulm: | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 15. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 35. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55. | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| age not known | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - |

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.55 = 65.

| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Total |
|------------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Numbers for 1955 | 35 | 25 | 1 | 6 | 65 |
| " " 1954 | 37 | 23 | 1 | 5 | 66 |
| " " 1953 | 37 | 21 | 1 | 4 | 63 |
| " " 1952 | 37 | 21 | 1 | 4 | 63 |
| " " 1951 | 30 | 18 | - | 5 | 53 |
| " " 1950 | 29 | 18 | - | 5 | 52 |
| " " 1949 | 28 | 17 | - | 6 | 51 |

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

As in other areas the Kent County Council is responsible for these services and the County Medical Officer has again kindly supplied for our use his statistics relating to them.

Immunisation.

The number of children receiving primary inoculations during the year was 95 and 86 received reinforcing doses. A total of 284 children of 0-4 years had been immunised by the end of 1955. These figures show a decrease on those of the previous year and mean that only about 50% of the children have been immunised.

Vaccination.

Of the children under one year of age 48 were vaccinated during 1955 and of the children aged 0-4 years 72 were vaccinated during the year. The figures show a slight decrease on those for 1954.

Care of Old People.

There are now six flourishing Clubs in the District - at Lyminge, Elham, Lympne, Saltwood, Stanford and Hawkinge - which are meeting the needs of elderly persons for entertainment and social intercourse. The Chiropody service has also been continued and developed; Mr. H.G. Pettett of Hythe holds monthly Clinics at Hawkinge, Lyminge and Sellindge and has given in all 221 treatments. Mr. W.F.S. Spindle of Hythe held 14 Clinic sessions at Elham for the old people of Elham, Ottinge, Newington and Lyminge and gave about 60 treatments.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1955.

SECTION D.Sanitary Circumstances of the area.1. Water Supply.

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the two Statutory Water Undertakings has been satisfactory throughout the year.

All the post-war schemes of extension of mains have been completed.

Approximately 97% of the dwellings in the district have access to the main supply.

, Examination of samples taken during the year.

| Type | No. | Bacteriological | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|----------------|
| | | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
| Raw water (piped) | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Raw water (not piped) | 3 | nil | 3 |
| Treated water | 9 | 9 | nil |
| | | Chemical | |
| | | | |
| Treated water | 1 | 1 | nil |
| Totals | 15 | 11 | 4 |

The unsatisfactory water samples were taken from rain water tanks serving properties in Ridge Row, Acrise.

The extension of the 3" main along Ridge Row will be considered next year. It will involve the laying of some 2,200 feet of main. Unfortunately the properties stand 300 feet from the highway and it is felt that the cost of connection might prove to be prohibitive.

The occupiers of these properties have been advised to have their tanks cleansed and other works carried out in an endeavour to improve the quality of the existing water supply.

Mid-Kent Water Company.

Six reports on the bacteriological examination of water and two on chemical analysis were received from the Mid-Kent Water Company. The reports showed that all the samples were satisfactory.

85.7% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district have piped supplies of water.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

No. of houses with piped water supply at 31st December, 1955.

| | No. of houses | No. of houses with piped supply | | Remarks |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Direct to house | Stand pipe | |
| Acrise | 43 | 33 | nil | Treated water |
| Elham | 453 | 363 | 8 | " " |
| Elmsted | 118 | 101 | nil | " " |
| Hawkinge | 327 | 293 | nil | " " |
| Lyminge | 502 | 425 | 2 | " " |
| Lympne | 218 | 196 | 1 | " " |
| Monks Horton | 39 | 14 | nil | Part treated |
| Newington | 119 | 95 | 8 | Treated water |
| Paddlesworth | 13 | 7 | nil | " " |
| Postling | 52 | 50 | nil | " " |
| Saltwood | 296 | 294 | nil | " " |
| Sellindge | 283 | 255 | nil | " " |
| Stanford | 146 | 137 | nil | " " |
| Stelling | 69 | { 88 | nil | " " |
| Stelling | { 37 | | 1 | " " |
| Minnis | | | | |
| Stowting | 63 | 35 | nil | " " |
| Swingfield | 247 | 209 | nil | " " |
| Totals | 3025 | 2595 | 20 | |

2. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

At the present time the parish of Saltwood is the only parish with main drainage. The scheme previously prepared by the Council for the parishes of Elham, Lyminge and Newington has been revised and will be re-submitted to the Ministry for approval. When approval has been received and the scheme is in operation the Etchinghill Sewage Disposal Works, which is a constant source of trouble due to overloading and in respect of which unsatisfactory reports on the effluent are continually being received from the Kent River Board, will become redundant. The position with regard to the disposal of cesspool refuse will also be easier.

Complaints have been received of the continued pollution of the Nailbourne in the part which flows through Lyminge and from Etchinghill Sewage Disposal Works.

All cesspools and some pail closets were emptied regularly, and as requested, by direct labour. Three Dennis emptiers and six men were employed to carry out this service. Four free emptyings were given per year and any over that number were charged for at the rate of 10/- per load.

The total number of cesspools emptied during the year was 2,765 and the cost (average) £1.19.0d. per cesspool.

Fourteen small sewage disposal works treat sewage from Council Housing Estates.

School Sanitation.

Brockhill Secondary Modern School,
Saltwood.

A new sanitary block and ablutions were constructed in the grounds of the school for the use of the pupils staying at the summer camp.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.3. General.

| | No. in district | No. of visits | No. of defects found | No. remedied |
|---|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Bakehouses | 4 | 10 | nil | nil |
| Dairies (Retail) | 3 | 3 | nil | nil |
| Ice Cream premises | 40 | 12 | nil | nil |
| Slaughterhouses | 4 | 355 | 1 | 1 |
| Other places where food is prepared or sold | 54 | 68 | 5 | 4 |
| Offensive trades | nil | nil | nil | nil |
| Factories* | 31 | 26 | 1 | 1 |

*Does not include bakehouses.

Summary of visits:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Food premises, shops and slaughterhouses | 475 |
| Factories | 26 |
| Sanitary defects, Housing and Rodent Control | 384 |
| Petroleum Storage | 102 |
| Sampling | 17 |
| Building operations and drainage | 889 |
| Town and Country Planning | 185 |
| Miscellaneous | 297 |

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year:-

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Bath, sinks, etc. | 2 |
| Dustbins | 2 |
| Cooking and heating | 3 |
| Dampness | 6 |
| Roofs, R.W.P., chimneys | 3 |
| Drainage: Reconstruction | 11 |
| Repairs | 7 |
| Sanitary accommodation | 2 |
| Walls, ceilings and floors | 4 |
| Premises disinfected | 1 |
| Water supplies | 2 |
| Total No. of inspection of all kinds during the year | 2375 |
| No. of premises connected to main sewers | 252 |
| " " " " to cesspools or septic tanks | 1667 |
| " " " with pail closets (| Exact figure |
| " " " " earth closets (| not known. |
| " " " not connected to Public Water supply | 430 |
| " " Informal Notices served | 30 |

| <u>Informal Notices</u> | <u>No. served</u> | <u>No. complied with</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Factories Act | 1 | 1 |
| Food and Drugs Act | 5 | 4 |
| Housing Acts | 9 | 5 |
| Public Health Act | 14 | 11 |
| Water Act | 1 | 1 |

4. Control of Infestation.Rodent Control.

A part time Rodent Operator was employed and disinfection was carried out in accordance with the recommendations laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----|
| No. of visits made: | Dwelling houses | 648 |
| | Agricultural | 122 |
| | Business premises | 67 |
| No. of premises treated: | | |
| | Minor infestations | 142 |
| | Major infestations | 3 |
| | Mice | 38 |

Vermin

No cases of bug infestation came to light during the year.

Several minor infestations of flies and cockroaches were successfully treated.

5. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection of domestic refuse was undertaken by direct labour using one Dennis 10 cu.yd. and one Bedford 7 cu.yd. covered collection vehicles. The Bedford vehicle was purchased during the year. Two driver/loaders and two loaders were employed on this service.

Disposal of refuse was by controlled tipping. Three tips were in use during the year one at Stanford and two at Swingfield. One of the tips at Swingfield was completed during the year and bulldozed level. It has been put into agricultural use.

The cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year 1954/55 was £238 per 1,000 population.

Salvage.

Income derived from the sale of salvaged materials was £287.11.4., 37 tons 18 cwts 3 qrs of waste paper was collected and sold, the remainder of the income was realised from the sale of scrap metals and mixed rags.

The men employed on the refuse vehicles were paid an incentive bonus of 12½% of the income gained.

SECTION E.FOOD.(a) Milk.

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Number of retailers | 11 |
| Number of dairies | 3 |

Nine licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and eight licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold retail were in force in the district.

(b) Ice cream.

No ice cream or iced lollies were manufactured in the district. Forty premises were registered for the sale and storage for sale of ice cream. Only pre-wrapped ice cream was retailed in the district.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Four private slaughterhouses in the district were licenced. A new hanging room was erected at one of the slaughterhouses.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.Carcases inspected and condemned.

| | Cattle Excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed | 119 | 32 | 59 | 296 | 1265 | - |
| Number inspected | 119 | 32 | 59 | 296 | 1265 | - |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | 2 | 8 | 2 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 10 | 6 | 1 | 20 | 65 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 8.4 | 18.7 | 5.0 | 9.4 | 5.29 | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only:</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 24 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 0.84 | 6.2 | - | - | 2.05 | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Home killed beef | 294 lbs. |
| Home killed pork | 718 lbs. |
| Home killed mutton | 887 lbs. |
| Home killed veal | 125 lbs. |
| Misc. tinned goods | 57 lbs. |
| Imported beef | 122 lbs. |

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION F.HOUSING.

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of inspections | 314 |
| Informal notices served (Housing and Public Health Acts) | 23 |
| Informal notices complied with | 16 |
| Statutory notices served | 3 |
| Statutory notices complied with | 3 |

Housing Act, 1949

42 Improvement Grants were made to owners of private dwellings.

Council Houses.

Thirty houses and six old peoples flats were erected during the year.

259 dwellings in the district are owned by the Local Authority. This is 8.03% of the total number of houses in the district.

Private Enterprise Houses.

57 private dwellings were erected during the year and 12 were in course of erection.

Slum Clearance.

52 properties were listed as being dwellings incapable of being repaired at reasonable cost and it is anticipated that 17 of these will be dealt with next year.



(1)

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

AREA: 39,453 acres

POPULATION:

Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year
population of the District was 10,290 - an increase
of 150 on the 1954 figure (10,140).

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 3,768

ASSESSABLE VALUE: £49,061

REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE: £190.8

STAFF:

Senior Sanitary Inspector

Mr. A.H. Hayes, M.R.S.I.,
M.S.I.A., S.R.N.,
Cert. Meat and Foods
Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

Mr. R.W. Wright, M.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat and Foods
Inspector.

Clerk

Miss J. Foreman

Plant Operator (full time)

Mr. A. Button

(2)

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Total M. F. | | | | West Ashford R.D. | England and Wales |
|------------------------|-------------|-----|-----|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Live Births | 162 | 78 | 84 | Birth rate | 16.7 | 15.0 |
| (a) Legitimate | 156 | 75 | 81 | per 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | 6 | 3 | 3 | estimated | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 2. Still Births | 3 | 1 | 2 | Rate per | 18.0 | 23.1 |
| (a) Legitimate | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1,000(live | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | and still) | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 3. Deaths | 232 | 115 | 117 | Death rate | 17.1 | 11.7 |
| | | | | per 1,000 | | |
| | | | | resident | | |
| | | | | population) | | |
| 4. Deaths from | | | | | | |
| Puerperal Causes | - | - | - | | - | 0.64 |
| (a) Maternal Causes | - | - | - | Rate per | - | 0.54 |
| (excluding | | | | 1,000 | | |
| abortion) | | | | (live & | | |
| (b) Due to abortion | - | - | - | still) | - | 0.10 |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5. Deaths of Infants | | | | | | |
| under one year of | | | | | | |
| age (all causes) | 4 | 1 | 3 | Rate per | 24.8 | 24.9 |
| (a) Legitimate | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1,000 | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | live | | |
| | | | | births | | |
| 5A. Deaths of Infants | | | | | | |
| under 4 weeks of | | | | | | |
| age | 4 | 1 | 3 | | | |
| 6. Deaths from | | | | Rate | | |
| Tuberculosis | | | | | | |
| (a) Respiratory | 1 | - | 1 | per | 0.09 | 0.13 |
| (b) Other Tuberculosis | - | - | - | | - | 0.015 |
| 7. Deaths from Cancer | | | | 1,000 | | |
| (a) Cancer of lung and | | | | | | |
| bronchus | 5 | 5 | - | estimated | 0.48 | 0.38 |
| (b) Other Cancer | 24 | 10 | 14 | | 2.33 | 1.66 |
| 8. Deaths from other | | | | resident | | |
| diseases | | | | | | |
| Deaths from Pneumonia | 9 | 4 | 5 | population | | 0.505 |
| Deaths from Influenza | 1 | - | 1 | | 0.09 | 0.068 |
| Deaths from Acute | | | | | | |
| Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | - | | 0.09 | |
| (including Polio- | | | | | | |
| encephalitis) | | | | | | |

(3)

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Causes of Death 1955.

| ALL CAUSES | | | Males 115 | Females 117 |
|------------|--|-----|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | - | 1 |
| 2. | Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic Diseases | ... | - | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal Infections | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | 1 | - |
| 8. | Measles | ... | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | - | - |
| 10. | Cancer of the stomach | ... | 1 | - |
| 11. | Cancer of lungs and bronchus | ... | 5 | - |
| 12. | Cancer of breast | ... | - | 5 |
| 13. | Cancer of uterus | ... | - | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer) | ... | 9 | 8 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, Alcaukaemia | ... | 2 | - |
| 16. | Diabetes | ... | - | 2 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | 16 | 13 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, Angina | ... | 13 | 8 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | ... | 9 | 9 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | ... | 18 | 25 |
| 21. | Other circulatory diseases | ... | 3 | 6 |
| 22. | Influenza | ... | - | 1 |
| 23. | Pneumonia | ... | 4 | 5 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | ... | 18 | 13 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | - | - |
| 26. | Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum | ... | 1 | - |
| 27. | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | ... | - | - |
| 28. | Nephritis and Nephrosis | ... | - | 2 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | 4 | - |
| 30. | Pregnancy, child birth and abortion | ... | - | - |
| 31. | Congenital malformation | ... | - | 2 |
| 32. | Other defined and illdefined diseases | ... | 8 | 15 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | 1 | - |
| 34. | All other accidents | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 35. | Suicide | ... | 1 | - |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | ... | - | - |

There were three deaths from accidents, a M. aged 25 years, a M. aged 20 years and a M. aged 67 years.

Four infant deaths occurred; 1 M. lived only a matter of minutes and died from Intra-cranial haemorrhage, 1 F. died at 9 hours due to primary Atelectasis and another at 2 days from persistent Atelectasis and a third F. died at 5 hours from Prematurity. There were two deaths of children between the ages of 1-5 years: one a M. aged 2 years died from a brain tumour and a F. aged 3 years from Operative shock.

As the County Hospital, Hothfield is now a residential Home for old and infirm persons deaths occurring in this Hospital are returned to West Ashford, this gives a disproportionately high death rate compared with East Ashford which has no such Hospital. It also affects the numbers of deaths from Cancer, Heart diseases and Bronchitis.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.Laboratory Facilities.

These were provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone until September end 1955 and after that by the Medical Research Council working from Laboratories in Maidstone. This service fulfils all the needs of the area.

Ambulance.

The area is served mainly by the St. John Brigade Ambulance stationed at Ashford working in co-ordination with the other ambulance services. All the needs of the area are satisfactorily covered.

Nursing Homes and Residential Homes for the Aged.

There are no nursing homes in this area, but there are two private establishments which offer residential accommodation for aged persons.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the Authority responsible for these services.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.Notifiable Diseases.

| Disease | No. of cases Notified | No. of cases removed to Hospital | Total Deaths |
|--|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | 4 | - |
| Whooping Cough | 16 | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - |
| Measles | 145 | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 1 | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 1 | - | - |
| Meningococcal infections | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | - |
| Total | 170 | 7 | 1 |

The incidence of infectious disease was low during 1955 except for the expected peak of measles.

The one case of Acute Poliomyelitis was unfortunately a severe one and resulted in the death of this young male adult.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.TUBERCULOSIS 1955.

| <u>Age Periods</u> | <u>New Cases</u> | | | | <u>Deaths</u> | | | | <u>Recoveries</u> | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Non-</u> | | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Non-</u> | | <u>Pulm:</u> | | <u>Non-</u> | |
| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
| 0. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| 25. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 35. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45. | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| age not known | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.55 = 92

| | | <u>Pulmonary</u> | | <u>Non-Pulmonary</u> | | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|--------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | |
| Numbers for | 1955 | 38 | 39 | 12 | 3 | 92 |
| " | " 1954 | 34 | 42 | 13 | 3 | 92 |
| " | " 1953 | 33 | 35 | 12 | 3 | 83 |
| " | " 1952 | 30 | 29 | 12 | 3 | 74 |
| " | " 1951 | 31 | 29 | 11 | 3 | 74 |
| " | " 1950 | 31 | 31 | 12 | 7 | 81 |
| " | " 1949 | 30 | 28 | 12 | 7 | 77 |

Only 2 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year and there were two recoveries and one death.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

We again thank Dr. Elliott, the County Medical Officer of Health, for his courtesy in supplying, for our use, his statistics relating to these two services which are administered by his staff.

Immunisation.

A total of 115 children received primary inoculations during the year under review and 103 received reinforcing doses. Of the children 0-4 years, 308 had been immunised by the end of 1955. This shows a fall on last year's figures.

Vaccination.

Of the children under one year of age, 63 received primary vaccination and of the children 0-4 years 96 were given their primary vaccination. These figures show a considerable improvement in the number of protected children as compared with previous years.

Care of Old People.

The Area now has two Clubs, one at Pluckley and the other at Shadoxhurst. A Chiropody service has been started in connection with the Shadoxhurst Club, 16 treatments were given in 1955.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.1. Water Supply.

The water supply for the Rural District is derived from one main source, the Mid Kent Water Co., with the addition of a small number of private wells and springs; 83.8% of the houses in the district have a piped water supply. There are still a number of properties supplied from standpipes but progress, though slow, is being made in the installing of piped indoor supplies.

During the year 20 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination and the results are tabled below:-

| | No. | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|------------------------------|-----|--------------|----------------|
| Treated water (Mid Kent) | 3 | 3 | Nil |
| Raw Water (Private supplies) | 17 | 2 | 15 |

No chemical analyses were made.

The majority of the unsatisfactory water samples were from points on a private supply servicing the hamlet of Chilmington Green which at one time formed a private estate. If assistance is obtained from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the County Council the above hamlet should have a satisfactory supply installed during 1956.

Water connections to residences during 1955.

| Parish | Houses connected during 1955 | Total No. Houses on mains Dec. 1955 | Metered Supplies | No. Houses in Parish |
|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Bethersden | 9 | 362 | 84 | 464 |
| Charing | - | 620 | 109 | 700 |
| Egerton | 2 | 201 | 47 | 276 |
| Great Chart | 9 | 221 | 55 | 281 |
| Hothfield | 115 | 208 | 23 | 258 |
| Kingsnorth | 3 | 271 | 47 | 316 |
| Little Chart | 4 | 121 | 30 | 98 |
| Pluckley | 5 | 302 | 69 | 338 |
| Shadoxhurst | - | 181 | 36 | 211 |
| Smarden | 15 | 322 | 97 | 357 |
| Westwell | 1 | 339 | 68 | 469 |
| Totals | 163 | 3148 | 665 | 3768 |

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.2. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Of the 11 parishes in the district five have complete main drainage schemes and a sixth is part sewered. Approval in principle has been received for the sewerage of two further villages and plans are being prepared for this work. In addition the old plants at Bethersden, Charing and Egerton are to be enlarged and modernised.

School Sanitation.Charing.

The Sanitary block at the above Primary School has been completely modernised. The entire suite is inside the main school structure and there are ample washing facilities adjoining. This school now has the most up-to-date system in the area.

Egerton Primary School is still serviced by ranges of trough closets.

Public Conveniences.

The public convenience situated at Charing is still well used and vandalism is on a very small scale.

3. General.

| | <u>No. in District</u> | <u>No. of inspections</u> | <u>No. of Defects found</u> | <u>No. of Defects remedied</u> |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Bakehouses | 5 | 8 | - | - |
| Dairies | 3 | 4 | - | - |
| Ice Cream Premises | 44 | 5 | - | - |
| Slaughterhouses | 4 | 506 | - | - |
| Other places where food is prepared or sold | 71 | 32 | 1 | 1 |
| Offensive Trades | 1 | 3 | - | - |
| Factories | 56 | 9 | 2 | 1 |

Analysis of nuisances and of defects remedied during the year
under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

| | |
|--|---|
| Roofs | 6 |
| Walls (external) | 3 |
| Chimney Stacks | 2 |
| Rainwater pipes | 2 |
| Gutters | |
| Dampness | 7 |
| Wall plaster | |
| Ceilings | 5 |
| Floors | 3 |
| Windows | 4 |
| Sashcords | - |
| Doors | 2 |
| Cooking and heating appliances | 1 |
| Baths, lavatory basins and sinks | 5 |
| Drainage - (a) Reconstructed and new | 3 |
| (b) Repairs | 1 |
| (c) Cleaned | 2 |
| Septic Tank plant and cesspools repaired | 2 |
| Other defects:- | |
| W.C's (a) Renewed | 1 |
| (b) Repaired | 5 |
| Water supply provided | 3 |

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

| | |
|--|------|
| Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year..... | 3709 |
| No. of premises connected to main sewers..... | 34 |
| No. of premises connected to cesspools..... | 1 |
| No. of Statutory Notices served..... | - |
| No. of Informal Notices served..... | 33 |
| No. of premises disinfected..... | 20 |

Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors.Inspection of Houses.

| | |
|---|------|
| No. of Houses inspected on receipt of complaint | 51 |
| No. of Houses reinspected | 307 |
| No. of Houses inspected and recorded | 1062 |
| (A special survey was undertaken during 1955) | |

Procedure Under Housing Act, 1936 (Formal).

| | |
|--|---|
| No. of Houses where offer to modernise was accepted | - |
| No. of Houses represented as unfit | 8 |
| No. of Houses where Demolition Orders were made | 2 |
| No. of Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 2 |
| No. of Houses where undertaking not to re-let was given | 2 |

4. Control of Infestation.Rodent Control.

The rodent control services are now being more widely used.

Regular systematic surveys are carried out; when business premises are treated repayment of costs are claimed and dwellings are dealt with free of charge. The use of warfarin precludes the making of tables showing estimation of kills but major infestations are lessening and this is in itself evidence of a decrease in the rodent population.

All sewers and sewerage works were treated during the year.

| | Local Authority | Type of Property | | All other inc. business |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | Dwellings | Agricultural | |
| Total No. of Properties | 9 | 3768 | 343 | 292 |
| No. surveyed | 9 | 212 | 76 | 16 |
| Infestations)major treated | 3 | 12 | 13 | 2 |
|)minor | 6 | 84 | 14 | 8 |

5. Refuse Collection.

This necessary public health service has been greatly improved by the purchase of a second modern collection vehicle; this enables a weekly collection to be made in the urbanised villages whilst still retaining a fortnightly collection for the remote areas.

Tip.

The refuse tip is being maintained satisfactorily and the regular treatment for rodents keeps infestation at a minimum.

Salvage.

The salvaging of paper, rags and metals still continues; a total of over £1,200 was made from the sale of these materials.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION E.FOOD.(a) Milk Supply.

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. Registered distributors | 14 |
| 2. Distributors Licenced to sell Pasteurised milk | 6 |
| 3. Distributors Licenced to sell T.T. milk | 3 |
| 4. Supplementary Licences issued for Pasteurised milk | 5 |
| 5. Supplementary Licences issued for T.T. milk | 6 |
| 6. Registered Dairies | 3 |

1 sample of milk was submitted for Biological examination; the report indicated that there was no evidence of Tuberculosis.

A successful prosecution was made against a local supplier of school milk. This action was taken after the investigation of a complaint that the dead body of a small rat had been found at the bottom of a sealed bottle of milk supplied to one of the schools. Laboratory examination revealed that particles of milk fats were found in the lung tissues of the rat. It was thus a reasonable conclusion that the rat had been drowned in a residue of milk in a used bottle returned to the dairy. This bottle must have traversed through the washing plant unnoticed and the bottle refilled and sealed without anyone being aware of the presence of the rodent.

The plant on inspection was clean and modern and there were no signs of a resident population of rodents.

(b) Ice cream.

The number of registered premises for the sale and storage of ice cream was 44; pre-wrapped ice cream only was retailed. There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district.

(c) Meat.Inspections at Slaughterhouses.

There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district which are sited at Pluckley, Smarden, Egerton Forstal and Charing.

The first three are small slaughterhouses and are primarily used to supply the shop attached. Charing slaughterhouse has wholesale connections and caters for butchers around East Kent and for a London Firm.

100% inspection of all carcasses was made and this has entailed much extra work for the Sanitary Inspectors often late at night and at weekends. 506 visits of inspection were made during the year. This work was shared by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the Additional Sanitary Inspector working alternate weeks.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed | 438 | 187 | 513 | 3933 | 1633 | - |
| Number inspected | 438 | 187 | 513 | 3933 | 1633 | - |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses con- demned | - | - | 3 | 34 | 2 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 69 | 71 | - | 183 | 64 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 13.4 | 38 | 0.5 | 5.5 | 4.04 | - |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses con- demned | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 20 | 30 | - | - | 15 | - |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 4.7 | 16.5 | 0.19 | - | 0.9 | - |
| <u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Title of Disease.Meat Offal

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------|
| Carcass of Beast | General T.B. | 300 | |
| Forequarters Beast | T.B. | 120 | |
| Port forequarters beast | " | 50 | |
| Forequarters beast | Deep Seated Haemorrhage | 126 | |
| Carcass of Cow | General T.B. | 402 | |
| 2 Forequarters of Cow | T.B. | 402 | |
| 2 carcasses of Calves | Premature | 96 | |
| 1 " " Calf | General T.B. | 80 | |
| 32 " " Sheep | Oedema & Emaciation | 951 | |
| Casualty Sheep 151 | Fractured | 10 | |
| " " " Part Lamb | Oedema & Adhesions | 20 | |
| " " " " | Arthritis Deformity | 8 | |
| Carcass of Pig | Haemorrhage Septicaemia | 120 | |
| " " " | Dead on arrival | 140 | |
| 16 Pigs Heads | T.B. | 178 | |
| Pigs Belly | Rupture | 12 | |
| " " " | Decomposed | 12 | |
| Double Offal | | | 52384 |
| Condemned in Shops | | 65 | |

Total Meat and Offal condemned 4 tons -cwts -qtrs 204lbs.

Other Foodstuffs Condemned.

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Ground Nuts | 175 lbs. |
| Algerian Carrots | 125 cwts. |
| Egyptian Onions | 4 cwt. |

(d) Other food preparing premises.Public Houses and Licensed Premises.

8 visits were paid to licensed premises during the year and all were found to be maintained in a very satisfactory manner. In all houses some form of detergent is added to the sink water but the use of drying cloths is still the rule rather than the exception. Improvements are being carried out in some of the public houses.

Restaurants, Cafes and Canteens.

16 inspections of cafes, kitchens, and canteens were made during the year; every opportunity is taken to remind managements of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Food Hygiene requirements. These informal talks to foodhandlers would appear to be of help in bringing about a gradual improvement in food hygiene.

Bakehouses.

There are four bakehouses in use and 6 inspections were made during the year. The premises were clean and maintained satisfactorily.

Butchers/Grocers Shops.

These food shops were visited at irregular periods during the year and they were found to be clean and well maintained; in one case an informal notice was served for the purpose of improving the cleaning of a butcher's shop.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Fish Shops.

There are no fish shops as such in the district, one butcher sells wet fish on occasions. Two inspections were made of mobile fish and chip vans operating in the area.

SECTION F.HOUSING.Rural Housing Survey.

During the year a thorough inspection was started.

Six villages have been surveyed, two started and there remain three others to do. The following table shows the findings up to December 31st, 1955.

| <u>Fit in most respects</u> | <u>Suitable for improvement.</u> | | <u>Short lived materials, mostly owner/occupier</u> | <u>Unfit</u> | <u>Recorded</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|---|--------------|-----------------|
| | A. | B. | | | |
| 316 | 370 | 105 | 162 | 42 | 254 |

Total inspections = 898 houses.

Improvement Grants.

The Council resolved to pursue a policy of granting monies for the improvement of properties and owners were contacted by statements in the rate demand notices and by means of the local press. The result was gratifying and during the year 60 applications were allowed.

The total amount of money approved for this purpose was £17,936.18.6. - approximately £300 per house.

Hop Pickers Camps.

8 visits were paid to the four camps during the season. All were maintained satisfactorily and scavenging was adequate. Members of the British Red Cross were in attendance at weekends.

Only one large camp at Pluckley had a full quota of resident pickers; the installation of a mechanical picker in one of the hop gardens and the use of local labour in two others were the means of closing one camp and greatly reducing the number of resident pickers in the other two camps.

